

My Fellow Citizens of South Carolina:

I regret the events/which make it necessary for us to
gather here tonight. But I am happy to consider with you--
solemnly and soberly--how/we must face this matter which has
been forced upon us.

The orderly and lawful manner/in which you have approached
the problem/created by the Supreme Court school segregation
decisions/is a tribute to the strength of character of South
Carolinians. Your deliberation is evidence also/of your
determination/that the Supreme Court shall not succeed in
"legislating" by judicial ^{decree}~~fiat~~/what the Congress could never
pass/through the method provided by the Constitution.

Historical evidence/positively refutes the decision of
the Supreme Court/in the school segregation cases. This
evidence was presented in the brief on the Clarendon County case.

The 39th Congress/which in 1866/framed the 14th Amendment
to the Constitution--the Amendment which contains the "equal
protection" clause--also provided for the operation of segregated
schools in the District of Columbia. What greater evidence of
the intent of Congress/could be presented? That is adequate
proof/that the Congress did not intend to prohibit segregation
by the 14th Amendment.

The Supreme Court admitted/in its opinion on the school
cases/that "education is perhaps the most important function of
State and local governments." But it failed to observe the
constitutional guarantees, including the Tenth Amendment, which
reserves control of such matters to the States.

If the Supreme Court can disregard the specific provisions of the Constitution/which were designed to safeguard the rights of the States, we might as well not have/a written Constitution. Not only did the Court disregard the Constitution/and historical evidence supporting that revered document, the Court also disregarded previous decisions of the Court itself. Such disregard for previous decisions/could be justified only if additional evidence were presented/which was not available/at the time the earlier decisions were rendered.

There was no such additional evidence presented to the Court. Therefore, the decision is without the color of constitutionality or of judicial precedent.

If the Court can say/which children shall go to which schools, the Court might soon attempt to direct/what shall be taught in those schools/and to determine the qualifications of the teachers.

I reject the philosophy/that the Court has any authority/over the assignment of pupils, the subjects to be taught/or any other matter relating to the public schools.

The Court's segregation decision sets a dangerous precedent. If the Court can disregard the Constitution in the school cases/and accept the theories of psychologists, it might also disregard the Constitution and violate other guarantees to the States and the people.

I respect the Court as an institution/created by the Constitution, but I do not and cannot/have regard for nine justices who have rendered a decision/which clearly and flagrantly violates the Constitution. These men are not worthy to wear the robes of their high office.

I also reject the contention of the propagandists/that the States should bow meekly to the decree of the Supreme Court. That is defeatism/and we are not defeated.

It would be shameful if we failed to use every legal means/to protect the rights guaranteed to the people by the Constitution. The agitators and propagandists employed every trick and pressure possible/for more than a half century/ to bring about the infamous decision. Now they insist/we should not resist the unconstitutional dictation of the Court.

We must fight the decision which decreed that segregated schools are not legal/with every lawful weapon. The Court did not follow the Constitution in arriving at its decision. We are not bound/by honor or the law/to submit to the Court without resisting.

I am proud of the determination/which is being demonstrated by the people of South Carolina/against the breaking down of our segregation laws. I am also happy that peaceful and harmonious relations continue/between the citizens of both races/in spite of the attempts of outside agitators to stir up conflict.

As Governor of South Carolina/I exerted every effort to assist our Negro citizens/to attain greater opportunities and a higher standard of living. I have no prejudice against any race. I shall continue to try to help all our citizens.

But it behooves the Negro leaders and their followers/ to work within the framework of segregation/which is in the best interests of all the citizens of South Carolina.

The distinguished member of the United States Senate / whom you have invited to address you tonight / has a mutual interest in these matters of which I have spoken.

Senator James Oliver Eastland was born and reared in Mississippi. He knows the problems which beset us / because his State is also beset with the same problems. In 1948 Senator Eastland proved his mutual interest with South Carolina / in protecting the rights of the States. He was the only member of the Senate / who openly endorsed my candidacy on the States Rights ticket for President.

Your guest attended Mississippi, Vanderbilt and Alabama universities. After studying law, he was admitted to the bar in 1927 / and engaged in the practice of law and also in farming.

He served in the Mississippi House of Representatives. from 1928 to 1932. He succeeded another distinguished Mississippian / by appointment to the United States Senate in 1941 / on the death of the Honorable Pat Harrison. Senator Eastland was elected to the Senate in 1942 / and has served continuously, having attained seniority of 13th ranking member. He is a member of the Judiciary and the Agriculture and Forestry Committees / and the Select Committee on Small Business.

He is chairman of the agriculture subcommittee appointed last year / to investigate and report on the disposal of farm surpluses. As a result of the recommendations of this subcommittee, legislation was enacted last year to deal with

some of these problems. It is anticipated that further legislation will be introduced/on the recommendation of the subcommittee at this session of Congress/to further alleviate the farm problems.

On the Judiciary Committee/Senator Eastland is chairman of the Internal Security Subcommittee/and the ranking Democrat on the Immigration Subcommittee.

The Internal Security Subcommittee is charged with the responsibility/of continuous investigation of communism in the United States. As a result of the work of this subcommittee, Congress has enacted legislation to curb the activities of those who advocate overthrow of the Government by violence.

I am sure you have read in recent issues of your newspapers/of the work of Senator Eastland in this respect.

Your guest also is a member of the Advisory Committee of the Federation for Constitutional Government. This is an organization dedicated to resistance against encroachments/by the Federal Government on the rights of the States.

I have not read the text of what my distinguished colleague intends to say to you tonight. But he is a strong advocate of constitutional government, opposes encroachment on the rights of the States, opposes centralization of power in Washington, opposes the socialistic trend existing today, and is a loyal American and true patriot. I am sure that he will bring you a worthwhile message.

It gives me great pleasure to present to you/a great Southerner and a great American, the Honorable James O. Eastland, Senator from the great State of Mississippi.

The End